



TOM TINDALL  
Director

## County of Los Angeles INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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*"To enrich lives through effective and caring service"*

July 14, 2010

To: Each Supervisor

From: Tom Tindall *Tom Tindall*  
Director

Subject: **RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT – SMALL BUSINESS  
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT SOLICITATION**

This report is in response to public comment made during the July 13, 2010 Board meeting alleging the exclusion of small businesses from a current County solicitation for office supplies. The office supplies bid is due July 15, 2010.

Small businesses are not excluded from this solicitation. However, the County's small business preference points will not be given as part of this solicitation since it is for a national contract to be established for the U.S. Communities-Government Purchasing Alliance and its 13,000 participating government agencies. County code, Chapter 2.204.070(A), states: "...the local small business enterprise preference shall not be given for national contracts established for the purchase of equipment and supplies for and by the National Association of Counties, U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance, or any similar or related group purchasing organization." This provision of the code was cited as the reason for not applying preference points in the solicitation document released on June 8, 2010. These requirements existed in the previous national contract solicitation in 2005.

We have had discussions with, and expect bids from, two separate groups of small independent suppliers in response to this solicitation. Also, the solicitation document states that: "...wherever possible, larger suppliers are strongly encouraged to partner with, and/or subcontract portions of the work to responsible and qualified Community Business Enterprise owned businesses and/or Small Business entities."

If you have any additional questions, please contact me or Joe Sandoval at (323) 267-2109, or via email at [jsandoval@isd.lacounty.gov](mailto:jsandoval@isd.lacounty.gov).

TT:JS:tt

c: William T. Fujioka, CEO  
Ellen Sandt, DCEO  
County Counsel  
ISD Board Deputies